

City of Fort Smith, Arkansas
Minutes of the Streets, Bridges and Associated Drainage
Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Advisory Committee Meeting
November 17, 2016

A meeting of the Streets, Bridges and Associated Drainage Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Advisory Committee was called to order at 12:00 p.m. on November 17, 2016, in the Planning Conference Room #326 of the City by Aaron St. Amant.

Committee members present:

Aaron St. Amant – Ward 3 (Chairman)
Stan Vlademar – Ward 1
Tiffinee Baker – Ward 2
Robert Brown – Ward 3
David Armbruster – Ward 4
Nathaniel Deason – Ward 4
Philip Rosar – Ward 4

City Staff Present:

Stan Snodgrass, Director of Engineering
Jennifer Stevens, Accounting Technician
Greg Riley, Director of Operations

Minutes of the October 6, 2016 Meeting

Aaron St. Amant made the motion to approve the minutes from the meeting and David Armbruster seconded. The minutes were approved 7 in favor and 0 opposed.

New Business:

Aaron St. Amant asked if there was any follow up items to be discussed.

Stan Vlademar asked about street work on the side streets in the May-Lecta neighborhood and if Lecta Avenue would also be improved. Stan Snodgrass stated that this work was part of the 2016 street overlay/reconstruction program which includes portions of Presley, Barry, Blackburn, May and Lecta Avenue. Stan Snodgrass noted the contractor was currently working on the side streets and would be working on May and Lecta Avenue early in 2017. The work should be completed around March of next year depending on weather conditions this winter.

David Armbruster asked where we were on reviewing the city's street design standards. Stan Snodgrass stated that Garver Engineering will be doing this work and it will likely take most of next year to complete the work.

David Armbruster asked Greg Riley for an update on the city sidewalk program. Greg Riley noted the street department was repairing sidewalks in various parts of the city. Aaron St. Amant asked how much of the sidewalk program was funded with the street and drainage 1 cent sales tax fund. Greg Riley stated that none of the CIP sales tax fund is utilized towards the sidewalk program.

Robert Brown asked about the status of reviewing North 50th Street between Grand Avenue and Midland Boulevard for possible improvements. Stan Snodgrass stated that Traffic Engineering Services will be taking traffic counts and making recommendations for possible improvements. The preliminary assessment should be completed in late January or February of next year. Based on their assessment a construction cost estimate will then be prepared. Aaron St. Amant stated he is trying to get a report from the Arkansas State Police to determine the number of accidents on the I-540 bridge to gauge how often traffic may divert to North 50th Street.

Robert Brown asked about the allocation report for the CIP fund from Jennifer Walker in the Finance Department. Stan Snodgrass stated she is still covered up from the 2017 budget process but should have a consultant selected to review it after the first of the year.

Robert Brown suggested the committee develop a 10 year wish list of projects. The list would include possible street improvement projects but not consider costs. Aaron St. Amant noted that the City's master street plan designates major streets and the associated ultimate street section widths across the city. Stan Snodgrass stated that the 5 year plan is updated on an annual basis which allows for adjustment to proposed work each year.

Philip Rosar questioned two streets for repair. The first being South 74th Street in front of the Panera Bread driveway. Stan Snodgrass stated that South 74th Street between Rogers Avenue and Euper Lane is under contract for resurfacing but it will be after the holidays before the work is undertaken. The other location is a dip on Leigh Avenue on the north side of the bridge over I-540. Stan Snodgrass stated that it is in the AHTD right of way but would advise the AHTD of the problem.

Robert Brown asked if there was any new information on the possible development south of Walmart on North 62nd Street. Stan Snodgrass stated that they have only received a Fill & Grading Permit with the intent being just to clear the site.

The next meeting will be January 12, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. in the Planning Conference Room # 326.

With no further discussion or business, a motion to adjourn was made by Stan Vlademar at 12:57 p.m. and Aaron St. Amant seconded the motion. 7 were in favor and 0 were opposed.